THE SECOND DAY.

The 23rd October, 1905.

The Assembly met in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall at 12 noon on Monday, the 23rd October.

The Dewan presided and the Heads of Departments and other Officers were present.

The Memoranda of representations and suggestions previously prepared and forwarded by the members were taken up.

SUBJECTS.

1. Extension of the Railway.

Mr. S. Swamy Aiyengar (Member, Merchants of Trivandrum) suggested that the Quilon Railway should be extended to Trivandrum and thence to the Southern frontier and said that the extension would connect the trade-centres and be highly beneficial to merchants and travellers.

Mr. Atchuthan Pillai (Member, Alengad Taluk) urged the importance of connecting Alwaye with Trivandrum by Railway and suggested that the enormous wealth hoarded in the temples might be utilized for the project. He observed that, with the many harbours on the coast and with the magnificent planting industry on the High Ranges, the undertaking would prove profitable.

Mr. Krishnan Pandala (Member, Quilon Taluk) in supporting the previous speakers said that the Quilon Railway ran through forests and comparatively uninhabited tracts and that it would be more profitable to extend the Railway to the populous and commercial centres near the sea.

Mr. S. Subramony Aiyer (Member, Town Improvement Committee, Nagercoil) said that, since the opening of the Quilon-Tinnevelly Railway, the important trading centres of Kottar and Vataseri had suffered much and that the extension of the Railway into the Southern Division would remove the inconveniences and difficulties of the merchants and the people. The Railway would also help in developing the harbour at Cape Comorin.

Dewan's reply.—The representations will receive due consideration. The Chief Engineer thinks that a Railway to the Southern frontier will be useful and will also pay. Traffic is being registered with a view to form an idea of the profitableness of the proposed extension.

2. Abolition or reduction of tax on firewood.

Mr. S. Subramony Aiyer (Member, Town Improvement Committee, Nagercoil) said that the tax of one rupee per

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